

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hiroaki SANO et al.

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of  
PCT/JP2003/011860

Filed: April 25, 2005

Docket No.: 123618

For: TUBE CONNECTING APPARATUS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following:

**Amendments to the Specification;**

**Amendments to the Claims** as reflected in the listing of claims;

**Remarks.**